



The *Blurb*



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

61 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2010

Volume 60 Number 3

www.phil-mont.org

March 2010



Paul Bohlander W3VVS

Bill Mannino WA3NSP

Biography of H. Paul Bohlander **by Thomas O. Bohlander**

Born August 30, 1919 Lakewood, Ohio -- Died January 30, 2010 at the Artman Lutheran Home, Ambler, PA.

He was the son and only child of the late Oliver J. and Mabel (Higgins) Bohlander. *Continued on page 4*

William Mannino WA3NSP (SK) on February 13th. Born in 1938 and lived in Oreland. Bill was a PMRC member. Husband of the late Patricia E. (nee Schmidt). He is survived by his mother Fara Mannino, brother Peter, nephew William and niece Jenifer Driesbach. He was a Navy veteran and served in the Cuban Missile Crisis. Memorial service was held Thursday the 18th at Craft of Erdenheim.

The Blurb is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. *Copying and quoting* is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs.

Requests should be sent to the Editor.

Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer.

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KB2ERL (10)

WU3I (11)

WA3KIO (12)

N3MT (10)

W3STW (11)

N3XKE (12)

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For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: WB3KOJ@comcast.net

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net** at 0930L on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net** at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net** at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB
- **ARES** at 2100L on the W3QV repeater

Committees

Archives: NG3P

Audit: NS3K

Awards: open

Blurb folding: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH

Directory:WB3KOJ

DX: N3MT

Emerg.Coor: K3HWE

Field Day: KE3QB

Internet: K3XS

Membership: N3XKE

Net Control: KB3IV

Publicity: W3RM

Program: Club VP

Public Service: KE3QB

Refreshments: W3AOK

Repeater: W3AOK

Skywarn: WX3PHI

Sunshine: N3GLU

TVI: W3VVS

VE Program: NS3K

W3AA Trustee:

WU3I

Welcome: N3UBY

Youth: N3MT

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at

Roxborough Memorial Hospital, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128

Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at
Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002

Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmcclloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee:** W3RM

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

Reach us on EchoLink through WU3I-L

W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: W3VVS

The Officers

Pres: KB3IV Ed Masarsky 310 Saw Mill Ln. Horsham PA 19044 kb3iv@comcast.net

Vice Pres: N3QV Eric D. Marano, PO BOX 233, Skippack PA 19474 n3qv@arrl.net

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Treas: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net

Asst. Treas: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez...

Are you dug out yet? This winter is beyond ridiculous. I hope no one has lost any antennas. I have no problems, mine are all indoors. We had to cancel the location of our February meeting because of the blizzard. However, we were able to hold the meeting at the scheduled date and time. Did you miss it? It was easy to find since we held the meeting on the repeater that night. I believe this is the first time our club has done this. Everything went well and we had 33 people attend. The refreshments were very tasty and I won the 50/50.

The March 10 meeting will take place in the Main Building of Roxborough Hospital since our usual meeting room will not be available. We will meet downstairs in the cafeteria. I hope the weather cooperates this time.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate a former PMRC member on her election as President of the ARRL. I cannot think of anyone more capable and deserving than Kay Craigie, N3KN. It has been my pleasure to know and work with Kay and I am sure the Amateur Radio community will move forward under her guidance for many years to come. I have included her bio (*see page 7*) from the League website so that you can see why she will be leading our hobby along with her fellow officers. All the best, Kay, from PMRC.

de Ed, KB3IV

ARRL VEC

The next VE session is on Thursday, March 25th at 7 pm.

Many thanks to our VE team!

***LAST CALL***

IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID BY THE END OF FEBRUARY YOUR NAME WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE 2010 P.M.R.C. DIRECTORY AND YOU WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE THE BLURB

Membership Stats

Will resume in April

March Birthdays

01 John Furlong – KC2TUT
03 Elaine Spencer (Honorary Member)
Billy Campbell (editor's grandson is 3!)
06 Tina Furlong (XYL KC2TUT)

09 Fayette Toren (XYL N2MT)
13 Rosemary Canuso (XYL N2ATB)

But wait, there's more ... turn the page!

15 Dottie Scialdone-Maresca - K3YPH

18 Ed Losco - N3DLV

21 Ben Roeshman - W3LKI

23 Henry Platt - W3UI

24 John Wright - K3CHR*

27 William (Red) MacKenzie - W3RED

28 Barbara Stein (XYL KB3AFH)

Tony Canuso - N2ATB

30 Robert H. Rose - KB3RTZ

*Indicates new member 2009

From the Secretary ...

PMRC BoD Meeting Minutes, 2/3/10

Ed, KB3IV, opened the meeting at 2000 hours. Attending the meeting were Bill, W3AOK; Steve, WU3I; Dick, W3RM; Gene, N3XKE; Fred, WA3KIO; Ed, KB3IV; Al, W3STW; and Jen KB3MIV.

W3RM, Treasurer, reported on the finances including the membership dues and Auction Fest results. WU3I gave the motion to accept the treasury report and W3AOK seconded the motion. W3RM also referred to the scholarship fund.

KB3IV and the others in attendance reminisced about H. Paul Bohlander, W3VVS.

N3XKE stated there are no new members.

W3AOK described the status of the repeater. Repairs need to be arranged.

KB3IV reminded everyone the search for the off site repeater will continue.

Old Business discussed: W3STW brought up the fact we need to decide on QSO cards for the W3AA/60 contacts.

New Business discussed: The Blurb...snail mail vs. email! Time to get excited for Field Day! The countdown has begun. WU3I and W3RM informed us that the Field Day site has been reserved. KB3IV suggested we should start promoting this year's Field Day and also license testing. July 1st the new Technician book comes out. The new ARRL president, Kay Craigie, N3KN, was congratulated via email by W3UI on behalf of PMRC. She is a former Phil-Mont member. The meeting was adjourned at 2055.

PMRC General Meeting Minutes, 2/3/10

This month's meeting was special because we held it over the repeater. It was due to the infamous Blizzard of 2010! Ed, KB3IV, Club President, began the meeting by roll call at 1930. There were 34 people checking in 27 members and seven guests.

Announcements:

W3RM reminded everyone to send in their dues for membership if they did not already do so.

N3XKE mentioned there are no new members and asked anyone who participated in the W3AA/60 special event station to give him or W3STW your log list, QSL and certificate requests.

KB3IV reported that the repeater is working well and there will be some changes in the spring. KB3IV also commended ND3B, The Blurb Editor, on doing an excellent job with The Blurb. KB3IV asked everyone to start planning for Field Day 2010. He also let everyone know congratulations are in order for a former Phil-Mont Club member, Kay Craigie, N3KN, since she is the new ARRL President. KB3IV then turned the meeting over to W3STW for the program.

W3STW and K3EUI commented, demonstrated and answered questions on the expanding digital modes available for radio communication and spoke about digital and analog satellites orbiting the earth.

de Jen, KB3MIV

W3VVS (SK) from the cover



Continued next page

Paul W3VVS grew up in Fremont in northern Ohio, graduated from Fremont High School, and attended a rigorous 1-year program at Valparaiso Technical Institute (VTI), a telegraph and radio school in Valparaiso, Indiana, from September 1940 to September 1941. He obtained his Class B, then Class A Amateur licenses in 1941 with the call of W8VVS. (Amateur Extra Class since 1986.)

VTI was originally known as the Dodge Telegraph Institute, named for the founder. After graduation, he was a broadcast engineer for WMRN, Marion, Ohio, for 1 year. He was on duty at the station when the teletype messages came in reporting the Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbor. In 1942, he returned to VTI as an instructor for the school's government contract, teaching military students Morse code and radio theory. After that contract dried up, he found employment with Philco Corporation of Philadelphia, Pa., as a field technical representative or "TechReps" as they were known, for Philco in the Pacific theater, one of the early manufacturers of radar equipment. These field engineers were contracted to the U.S.N. Bureau of Aeronautics. As a civilian operating in the war zone, he wore a khaki uniform with TechRep, U.S.N., and A.C.G. insignia. He installed many APS-4 radars and other radio equipment in aircraft during his stint with Marine aviation squadron VMSB-331 as it hopped across the Pacific in the last year of the war, along with other tasks such as inspecting ship installations and their spare parts inventories. He was on islands such as Kwajalein, Eniwetok and Majuro in the Gilbert and Marshall Islands groups.



After the war, he was at the Navy development base of Patuxent River for a number of years and then eventually settled in the northern suburbs of Philadelphia in 1950 where Philco was

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based, and was a technical writer in Philco's technical publications group until 1975. Besides writing manuals for their automobile radios, technical school program and Philco appliances, he did work on some military contracts Philco obtained which included writing the first version maintenance manuals for the R-389, R390, and R391 receivers for Fort Monmouth, and an amphibious Army truck at Ford in Detroit. (Ford had bought Philco and it became known as Philco-Ford, then later as Aeronutronic Ford.) He worked a full career of about 33 years with Philco and continued to write technical manuals at a small manual company (Multitech Services Corp.) and at Jerrold/General Instruments (now Motorola) for a number of years later.

He has been a member of the Antique Wireless Association (AWA) for many years now and collected National receivers. He has built many reconstructions of early tube receivers, right up to the present. I could not do as good a job of the projects as he does!

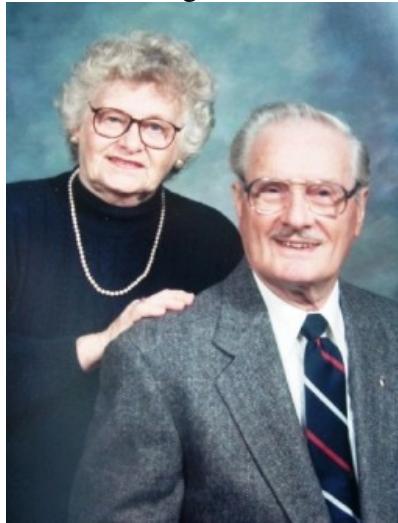
Four years ago I posted a story with photos on the AM Forum bulletin board titled "OM's 1940's Rig About To Be On Air" on his radio shack history and the restoration of his homebrew push-pull 812H transmitter originally finished in 1946.

The link to that thread is:

<http://amfone.net/Amforum/index.php?topic=5267.0>



He was on 75 meters with that transmitter Saturday evening August 15th, 2009, in QSO with Chris W2JBL and Paul WA3VJB at the Armstrong Tower Special Event Station W2A in Alpine, New Jersey.



My parents (wife – Eunice) also celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary August 12th, 2009.

He was a wonderful father and participated or supported Fred and me in activities such as YMCA Indian Guides, Cub Scouts, Boy

Scouts, swimming lessons and competition swimming, schooling and homework, music lessons and marching band. (The list goes on – HI.)

He was a 60 year resident of North Hills, a northern suburb of Philadelphia, Pa. He was a member of Carmel Presbyterian Church, Glenside, Pa., for over 50 years and sang in the church choir in later years along with Eunice. He was a former Deacon.

He was a member of Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club (PMRC) for over 50 years, a member of the Amateur Radio Relay League, Quarter Century Wireless Association, and Marine Corps League.

He is survived by sons Frederick (Sharon) Bohlander of Ardsley, Pa., and Thomas (Nicole) Bohlander WA3KLR of Quakertown, Pa.; grandchildren Fred Jr., Lori, and Peter; and great-grandchildren Victoria and Josephine.

Memorial services were held Sunday, February 7, 2010 at Carmel Presbyterian Church. Contributions may be made to Carmel Presbyterian Church (general fund), 100 Edge Hill Rd., Glenside, PA 19038, or PMRC Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001.

At a later date, yet to be determined, his ashes will be interred in family plots at a cemetery in Port Clinton, Ohio.

Radio Stores ... 'N' More

by Bob Thomas, W3NE

GENERAL RADIO Camden's Gem

Even with a large bright red sign proclaiming its identity, few motorists, hams or otherwise, noticed a white store situated just past the toll booths on the right side of the Ben Franklin Bridge Plaza in Camden. That was General Radio Supply, known to regular customers as "Walt's." The store was owned and operated by Walter Beringer, a forty-something gentleman when I started going there in 1951. A large segment of Walt's business was the Radio/TV service trade, which flourished before throwaway electronics became prevalent. For the ham builder, however, the selection of off-the-shelf items at Walt's was an incredible resource; there was hardly a component, chassis, meter, cabinet, test instrument, coax or multi-conductor cable that was not stocked by Walt. Imagine being able to buy seven feet of cut-to-length 5-conductor cable (shielded or unshielded), any receiving or small transmitting tube, Millen, National or Meissner product, chokes, power, interstage or modulation transformers, or . . .

I was a regular customer of Walt's for over thirty years until my retirement from RCA in 1982. The store was only six blocks from the plant, so all the hams at RCA patronized the store during lunch hour, often several times a week, depending on what we were building. The austere sales area had a long metal-top counter behind which were shelves of high-demand radio and TV service components, and out in front, some racks displaying a few magazines and books, and a complete file of Sams *Photofacts* service data.

Walt was on hand most of the time to personally serve his customers. His regular counter assistant was Aldo, who shuffled about staring into space, as though dreaming of life on Mars. Aldo had a knack for routinely botching the most elementary request. If asked for ten 51-ohm resistors, he would disappear into the stock room, saunter back five minutes later with a blank look and the realization

that, "Oh, I thought you wanted fifty-one 10-ohm resistors." About 1970, Walt Jr. began working in the store. He was bright, energetic and efficient, but had an indefinable air of detachment. With choices like that, regular customers would naturally hang back until it looked like Walt Sr. would be available!

As the years went by, it gradually became apparent that Walt's health was declining. It didn't deter him from being in the store almost every day, but he began to move slower and acquire the appearance of someone in physical distress. That's the way he was during my last visit to his store in 1982 when I retired early from RCA to take a new job in another city. I don't know how long General Radio could possibly have survived after that in view of Walt's fragile health, the precipitous decline in customers interested in buying radio parts, and the redevelopment of Camden. At any rate, it was great while it lasted. In retrospect, it was just as well for the customers of that extraordinary source of every radio part imaginable during those halcyon years that we had no inkling of how really bad it was going to get. Goodbye Walt . . . hello 2010.

Kay Craigie, N3KN

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, lives in Blacksburg, Virginia, with her husband Carter Craigie, N3AO, and their Jack Russell Terrier, Frodo.

Originally from Atlanta, Georgia, Kay graduated from Georgia State College (now Georgia State University) in 1968 and then moved to Pennsylvania to earn a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She taught at the University of Maryland for three years in the 1970s. Later, she taught part-time at Cabrini College in Pennsylvania and worked on the non-instructional staff at a high school. She moved to Virginia in 2007.

First licensed in 1983, Kay became the editor of her radio club's newsletter, a position she held for 24 years. She has been a Volunteer Examiner for more

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than 20 years, now working with the New River Valley Amateur Radio Club's team. In 1986, she became ARRL Section Manager for Eastern Pennsylvania, moving up to Atlantic Division Vice Director in 1990. Six years later, she became Atlantic Division Director, and in 2006 she was elected First Vice President of the ARRL.

Kay has served on all the standing committees of the ARRL Board of Directors and also worked on the League's Enforcement Task Force, the committee whose pressure finally resulted in the FCC's assigning Riley Hollingsworth to clean up the ham bands.

Kay's first assignment as Vice President was to design what became the ARRL Education and Technology Program. Later, she chaired the National Emergency Response Planning Committee, tasked with recommendations on the League's readiness at the national level to respond to extraordinary disasters.

On the air, Kay enjoys DXing -- that's what attracted her to ham radio in the first place -- award-hunting, and contesting. She holds VUCC on 6 meters, 5BDXCC (endorsed for 12, 17, and 30 meters), the DXCC Challenge award, WAZ, and WAE Class 1 CW. She enjoys digital modes such as RTTY and PSK31, as well as CW and phone. She is involved with Skywarn through the Blacksburg, Virginia, National Weather Service Forecast Office.

Kay's husband Carter is a retired college professor. He has served as a Section Traffic Manager and as an ARES Emergency Coordinator. He especially enjoys QRP and operating outdoors on the Appalachian Trail. He is also a Skywarn volunteer. Their daughter Jenny Riffe, KA3WVD, lives in Virginia with her husband and two children.

Woohoo! Spring is almost here!

Don't forget to adjust your clocks for Daylight saving time too!

For Sale:

Double Braided Dacron Rope now in stock. 3/16 diameter. Black in color. Will cut to requested length. High stretch resistance. Excellent strength: and abrasion resistance Also excellent resistance to acid, sunlight, mildew and chemicals.

Shock load: Excellent. Does not float. Seal ends with heat. Breaking strength 630 Pounds. \$0.14 per foot

And ...

Rohn 6 40 foot tower with rotor shelf and fold over base. \$150.00

Mosley TA-33 \$150.00

Cushcraft A-3 \$150.00 (1 available)

Contact Steve, WU3I, for these items.

Please feel free to forward to other clubs of which you are a member.

And don't forget the **ARES** net every Sunday night at 2100L on the club repeater.

First Class Mail

641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115

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